

REMARKS

This is a full and timely response to the outstanding non-final Office Action mailed February 18, 2005. Reconsideration and allowance of the application and presently pending claims 33-41 and 43-73, as amended, are respectfully requested.

1. Present Status of Patent Application

Upon entry of the amendments in this response, claims 33-41 and 43-73 remain pending in the present application. More specifically, 1-32 and 42 are canceled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer. Claims 43-73 are added. These amendments are specifically described hereinafter. It is believed that the foregoing amendments and additions add no new matter to the present application.

2. Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant appreciates the Examiner's indication that claims 33-41 are allowable over the prior art of record.

3. Response to Rejection of Claims 1-32 and 42 Under 35 U.S.C. §103

In the Office Action, claims 1-32 and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over *Tanaka et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,435,969), hereinafter *Tanaka*, in view of *Link et al.* (U.S. Patent No. 6,383,080). Applicant traverses the rejection of claims 1-32 and 42.

However, to advance prosecution of the instant case, claims 1-32 and 42 are canceled without prejudice, waiver, or disclaimer so that the allowed claims 33-41 may issue to patent. Therefore, the rejection to these claims are rendered moot. Applicant reserves the right to pursue the subject matter of these canceled claims in a continuing application, if Applicant so chooses, and does not intend to dedicate any of the canceled subject matter to the public.

4. Newly Added Claims 43-73

New claims 43-73 are based on subject matter that is explicit and/or inherent within the description of the specification and/or the drawings. Applicant submits that no new matter has been added in the new claims 43-73, and that new claims 43-73 are allowable over the cited prior art. Therefore, Applicant requests the Examiner to enter and allow the above new claims.

CONCLUSION

In light of the foregoing amendments and for at least the reasons set forth above, Applicant respectfully submits that all objections and/or rejections have been traversed, rendered moot, and/or accommodated, and that the now pending claims 33-41 and 43-73 are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the present application and all pending claims are hereby courteously requested. If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephonic conference would expedite the examination of this matter, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned agent at (770) 933-9500.

Respectfully submitted,



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